United Nations A/C.2/57/L.56

General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda items 87 (c) and 112

Environment and sustainable development: protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.43

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of paragraph 8 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.43, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to make provision for the session of the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and its subsidiary bodies in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

2. It is noted that paragraph 8 of the draft resolution deals with administrative and budgetary matters. In this connection it is recalled that, in its resolution 45/248 B, section VI, the General Assembly:

(a) Reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

(b) Reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(c) Expressed its concern at the tendency of its substantive Committees and other intergovernmental bodies to involve themselves in administrative and budgetary matters;

(d) Invited the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters.

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3. As regards the substance of the proposal, the conference servicing of the Convention bodies during the biennium 2004-2005 from within the United Nations regular budget resources requires services costing $4.4 million on a full cost basis at 2002-2003 rates.

4. It should be noted in connection with the above that the Conference of Parties to the Convention customarily reserves specific additional funds, as a contingency provision, in the context of approval of the biennial programme budgets of the Convention for use in the event that the General Assembly decides not to provide resources for conference servicing at its meetings in the United Nations programme budget. For the biennium 2002-2003, for example, such provision was approved by decision 38/CP.7 of the Conference of Parties (see FCCC/CP/2001/13/Add.4).

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Agenda items 87 (d) and 112

Environment and sustainable development: implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.17

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of operative paragraph 12 of draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.17, the General Assembly would request the Secretary-General to make provision for the sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa and its subsidiary bodies, including the seventh ordinary session of the Conference of the Parties and the meetings of its subsidiary bodies, in his proposal for the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005.

2. It is noted that operative paragraph 12 of the draft resolution deals with administrative and budgetary matters. In this connection, it is recalled that, by section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990, the General Assembly:

(a) Reaffirmed that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

(b) Reaffirmed also the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

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(c) Expressed its concern at the tendency of its substantive Committees and other intergovernmental bodies to involve themselves in administrative and budgetary matters;

(d) Invited the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters.

3. As regards the substance of the proposal, the conference servicing of the Convention bodies in the biennium 2004-2005 from within the United Nations regular budget resources would require an amount of $1.7 million on a full-cost basis at current rates.

4. It should be noted in connection with the above that the Conference of the Parties to the Convention customarily reserves specific additional funds, as a contingency provision, in the context of approval of the biennial programme budgets of the Convention, for use in the event that the General Assembly decides not to provide resources in the United Nations programme budget for conference servicing of the Convention's meetings. For the biennium 2002-2003, for example, such provision was approved by decision 4/COP.5, of the Conference of the Parties.[1]

[1] See ICCD/COP(5)/11/Add.1 for a full text.

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 12
Report of the Economic and Social Council

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.39

Public administration and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 50/225 of 19 April 1996, 53/201 of 15 December 1998 and 56/213 of 21 December 2001 on public administration and development, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/45 of 20 December 2001,

Stressing the need for capacity-building initiatives aimed at institution-building, human resources development, strengthening financial management and harnessing the power of information and technology,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the role of public administration in the implementation of the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[1]

2. *Reiterates* that efficient, accountable, effective and transparent public administration, at both the national and international levels, has a key role to play in the implementation of the internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] and, in that context, stresses the need to strengthen national public sector administrative and managerial capacity-building, in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

3. *Decides* that 23 June will be designated United Nations Public Service Day, and encourages Member States to organize special events on that day to highlight the contribution of public service in the development process;

4. *Expresses its deep appreciation* for the generous offer of the Kingdom of Morocco to host the fourth Global Forum, in Marrakesh, in December 2002;

[1] A/57/262-E/2002/82.
[2] Resolution 55/2.

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5. *Welcomes* the substantive support that the Secretariat is providing to the forthcoming Global Forum, and invites it to extend such support to any future forums of a similar kind that may take place;

6. *Reiterates its appreciation* for the role that the United Nations Online Network in Public Administration and Finance performs in promoting information sharing and exchange of experience and in building the capacities of developing countries to utilize information communication technologies for this purpose, and reiterates that particular emphasis should be given to the exchange of experience related to the role of public administration in the implementation of internationally agreed goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, in the manner he deems appropriate, on the implementation of the present resolution.

United Nations A/C.2/57/L.59

General Assembly

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6 December 2002

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 95
Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.30

Twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and the strengthening of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 3327 (XXIX) of 16 December 1974, 32/162 of 19 December 1977, 34/115 of 14 December 1979, 53/242 of 28 July 1999, 56/205 of 21 December 2001 and 56/206 of 21 December 2001,

Recalling also Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/38 of 26 July 2002,

Recalling further the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2]

Emphasizing the goal contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[3] of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by the year 2020,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II), Istanbul, 3-14 June 1996* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.97.IV.6), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.
[2] Resolution S-25/2, annex.
[3] Resolution 55/2, annex.

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Recalling the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[5] as well as the Monterrey Consensus, adopted at the International Conference on Financing for Development,[6]

Acknowledging the holding of the first session of the World Urban Forum, a non-legislative technical forum in which experts are able to exchange views in years when the Governing Council of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme does not meet, and the fifth meeting of the Advisory Committee of Local Authorities, an advisory body to the Executive Director of the Programme,

Welcoming the efforts made by the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to forge partnerships with other United Nations funds and programmes and with international financial institutions, such as the World Bank,

Recognizing that the overall thrust of the new strategic vision of the Programme and its emphasis on the two global campaigns on secure tenure and urban governance are strategic points of entry for the effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda, especially for guiding international cooperation in respect of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development,

Conscious of the need to achieve greater coherence and effectiveness in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration,

Recognizing the need for increased and predictable financial contributions to the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation in the new millennium to ensure timely and effective and concrete results in the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements and the relevant internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration and the Johannesburg Declaration and Plan of Implementation, particularly in developing countries,

Reiterating the call to the Executive Director of the Programme to increase her efforts to strengthen the Foundation in order to achieve its primary operative objective, as set out in its resolution 3327 (XXIX), of supporting the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, including supporting shelter, related infrastructure-development programmes and housing finance institutions and mechanisms, particularly in developing countries,

Taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the special session of the General Assembly for an overall review and appraisal of the implementation of

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[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II),[7] on the strengthening of the Programme,[8] and on coordinated implementation of the Habitat Agenda,[9]

1. *Underlines* the commitments made by Governments to implement the Habitat Agenda[1] and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements in the New Millennium,[2] and to the goal of achieving a significant improvement in the lives of at least 100 million slum-dwellers by 2020, as contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration;[3]

2. *Underlines also* the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development, including the commitment to halve, by the year 2015, the proportion of people who are unable to reach or to afford safe drinking water and the proportion of people who do not have access to basic sanitation, and requests the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to support developing countries in implementing the targets in order to increase access to clean water, sanitation and adequate shelter;

3. *Encourages* Member States to strengthen and institutionalize national Habitat committees and other mechanisms, as appropriate, as broad-based platforms for the preparation and implementation of their plans of action based on the Habitat Agenda, the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements and the relevant international development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration;

4. *Urges* all countries to strengthen and mainstream shelter and human settlements development activities in their development planning frameworks;

5. *Recognizes* that Governments have the primary responsibility for the sound and effective implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements, and stresses that the international community should fully implement its commitments to support Governments of developing countries and countries with economies in transition in their efforts, through the provision of requisite resources, capacity-building, transfer of technology and the creation of an international enabling environment;

6. *Emphasizes* the importance, at all levels of policy-making and in the context of sustainable development, of giving high priority to the implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements, including achieving the goals of adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world, particularly in developing countries;

7. *Requests* the Executive Director of the Programme to further strengthen her efforts to make the Cities Alliance Initiative an effective means for the implementation of the twin goals of the Habitat Agenda, namely, adequate shelter for all and sustainable human settlements development in an urbanizing world;

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[7] A/57/271.
[8] A/57/272.
[9] E/2002/48.

8. *Encourages* the Programme to continue to implement the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and other Human Settlements, including through promoting partnerships with local authorities, non-governmental organizations, private sector and other Habitat Agenda partners, to empower them, within the legal framework and according to the conditions of each country, to play a more effective role in shelter provision and in sustainable human settlements development;

9. *Reiterates* the invitation to Governments and Habitat Agenda partners to facilitate the dissemination of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements;

10. *Reiterates also* the agreement by Governments to intensify dialogue where possible, including, inter alia, through the Governing Council of the Programme, on all issues related to effective decentralization and strengthening of local authorities, in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda, in conformity with the legal framework and policies of each country;

11. *Encourages* Governments and their Habitat Agenda partners to evaluate and report to the Programme on their implementation of the Habitat Agenda and the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements;

12. *Welcomes* increased cooperation between the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Development Programme, and notes with interest the envisaged placement of locally recruited United Nations Human Settlements Programme programme managers in selected United Nations Development Programme offices in recipient countries, in consultation with the relevant Governments;

13. *Calls upon* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme, the United Nations Environment Programme and other relevant organs and organizations of the United Nations system to increase cooperation in and strengthen coordination of their activities, within the framework of their respective mandates and separate programmatic and organizational identities, in order to promote the implementation of the relevant provisions of Agenda 21 and the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development[5] with a view to supporting sustainable development;

14. *Reiterates* the invitation to the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to implement, in accordance with paragraph 66 of the Declaration on Cities and Other Human Settlements, the establishment of the Habitat Agenda task manager system to allow better monitoring and mutual reinforcement of actions taken by international agencies in support of the implementation of the Habitat Agenda;

15. *Calls upon* the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to further support the implementation of the Water for African Cities programme, as requested by the New Partnership for Africa's Development;

16. *Acknowledges with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme to strengthen the Programme, and encourages her to continue such efforts;

17. *Invites* Governments and relevant international institutions and agencies to increase their support to the Programme to enhance its capacity to function as a fully fledged United Nations programme;

18. *Acknowledges also with appreciation* the ongoing efforts of the Executive Director of the Programme to strengthen the United Nations Habitat and Human Settlements Foundation, and invites Governments that are in a position to do so, and their Habitat Agenda partners, to increase their financial contributions to the Foundation in a predictable manner;

19. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the resource needs of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme and the United Nations Office at Nairobi under review so as to permit the delivery of necessary services to the Programme and other United Nations organs and organizations in Nairobi in an effective manner;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a consolidated report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution;

21. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the item entitled "Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly".

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 96
Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Bruno van der Pluijm (Belgium), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.31

Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 52/187 of 18 December 1997, in which it decided to convene the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries at a high level in 2001, as well as its resolutions 53/182 of 15 December 1998, 54/235 of 23 December 1999 and 55/214 of 20 December 2000,

Recalling also its resolution 55/279 of 12 July 2001, by which it endorsed the Brussels Declaration[1] and the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010,[2]

Welcoming the establishment of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, pursuant to its resolution 56/227 of 24 December 2001,

Taking note of the outcome of the Ministerial Conference of the Least Developed Countries, held in Cotonou, from 5 to 7 August 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General, on implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/227 on the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries,[3]

1. *Reaffirms* that global-level follow-up to the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010[2] should be primarily

[1] A/CONF.191/12.
[2] A/CONF.191/11.
[3] A/57/496.

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concerned with assessing the economic and social performance of the least developed countries, monitoring the implementation of commitments by the least developed countries and their development partners, reviewing the functioning of implementation and follow-up mechanisms at the country, subregional, regional and sectoral levels, and policy developments at the global level with implications for the least developed countries;

2. *Invites* each least developed country, with the support of its development partners, to promote implementation of the actions contained in the Programme of Action by translating them into specific measures within its national development framework and poverty eradication strategy, in particular, poverty reduction strategy papers, where they exist and with the involvement of civil society, including the private sector, on the basis of a broad-based inclusive dialogue;

3. *Stresses* the need for efficient and strengthened coordination, monitoring and follow-up of the implementation of the Programme of Action and, in this regard, calls for an adequate allocation of resources for the functioning of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, to enable it to carry out successfully its mandate as set out in resolution 56/227;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Secretary-General to establish a trust fund in support of activities undertaken by the Office of the High Representative pursuant to its call for voluntary contributions contained in resolution 56/227;

5. *Calls upon* Member States, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to make voluntary contributions to that trust fund, in particular for the implementation of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional, regional and international levels;

6. *Reiterates* its call to the governing bodies of the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system, international financial institutions and other multilateral organizations to mainstream the implementation of the Programme of Action in their programmes of work and intergovernmental processes;

7. *Emphasizes* that the organizations of the United Nations system have a special role to play in the implementation of the Programme of Action, and that the full mobilization and coordination of all parts of the United Nations system to facilitate the coordinated and coherent implementation and monitoring of the Programme of Action is crucial and, in this regard, welcomes with appreciation the decisions already taken by several governing bodies of the organizations of the United Nations system to mainstream the Programme of Action;

8. *Urges* all Member States, and the United Nations system, and invites the international financial institutions and other multilateral organizations, to extend to the Office of the High Representative their full support for the fulfilment of its mandate;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly, through the Economic and Social Council, a comprehensive annual progress report on the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2001-2010.[2]

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 84 (c)
Macroeconomic policy questions: science and technology for development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Abdellah Benmellouk (Morocco), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.3

Global biotechnology forum

The General Assembly,

Underlining that intergovernmental cooperation in science and technology is an important tool with which to enhance international cooperation,

Stressing that international cooperation, including North-South as well as South-South cooperation, is an important means of offering viable opportunities to developing countries in their individual and collective pursuit of sustainable development, and of ensuring their effective and meaningful participation in the emerging global economic system,

Recalling the relevant provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] as well as the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety to the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Recalling also the Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development adopted at the Summit, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,[2]

Taking note of decision IDB.26/Dec.__ adopted by the Industrial Development Board of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization at its twenty-sixth session, held at Vienna from 19 to 21 November 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the proposal by the Government of Chile to host a global biotechnology forum in December 2003 for multi-stakeholder discussions under the auspices of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in cooperation

[1] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre, June 1992).
[2] A/CONF.199/20, chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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with other relevant organizations, and to take adequate measures towards its successful organization;

2. *Encourages* interested Member States to work with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization, inter alia, through regional preparatory meetings and discussions with the Secretariat, to ensure that the forum has realistic objectives and produces useful outcomes, as related to the mandate of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization in its medium-term programme framework, 2002-2005;

3. *Also encourages* interested Member States to consider providing financial or other support to the forum and/or to the regional preparatory meetings;

4. *Invites* the United Nations Industrial Development Organization to include in the report of its Director-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session, a section on the outcomes of the forum.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 93
High-level international intergovernmental consideration of financing for development

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Marco Antonio Suazo (Honduras), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L. 44

Ensuring effective secretariat support for sustained follow-up to the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/210 B of 9 July 2002, by which it endorsed the Monterrey Consensus as adopted by the International Conference on Financing for Development on 22 March 2002[1] and requested the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session on the outcome of the Conference, measures taken as well as his proposals for ensuring effective secretariat support to the follow-up efforts to the Conference,

Stressing the importance of providing sustained follow-up within the United Nations system to the agreements and commitments reached at the Conference and ensuring effective secretariat support, with collaboration from the secretariats of the major stakeholders concerned, fully utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination mechanism, in pursuance of paragraph 72 of the Monterrey Consensus, building on the innovative and participatory modalities and related coordination arrangements utilized in the preparations of the Conference,

Recalling Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/34 of 26 July 2002, in which the Council, inter alia, decided to promote a coherent and integrated response within the United Nations on the part of the different departments, units, funds, programmes and specialized agencies, each in its specific area of competence,

[1] *Report of the International Conference on Financing for Development, Monterrey, Mexico, 18-22 March 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.II.A.7), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

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Recalling also the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination on the work of its forty-second session, in which the Committee recommended that, following the endorsement of the Monterrey Consensus by the General Assembly, the Secretary-General prepare a proposal for a new subprogramme on financing for development under programme 7, Economic and social affairs, of the medium-term plan for the period 2002-2005, for consideration by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session,[2]

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the reports of the Secretary-General on the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development[3] and on follow-up efforts to the Conference;[4]

2. *Reaffirms* that the Conference constituted a new approach by the international community and that its implementation and follow-up should be given a very high priority in the economic and social work of the United Nations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish, as soon as possible, from within existing resources of the United Nations Secretariat, appropriate secretarial support arrangements along the lines envisioned in paragraph 48 of the Secretary-General's report on the outcome of the Conference,[3] with collaboration from other agencies and institutional stakeholders, and with a distinctive function to provide effective substantive secretariat support for sustained follow-up within the United Nations of the agreements and commitments reached at the Conference;

4. *Decides* that the functions of the new secretariat support structure should be of an integrating, cross-cutting and holistic nature, and that it should, inter alia, serve as a focal point in the United Nations Secretariat for overall follow-up to the implementation of the outcome of the Conference; provide secretariat support to the intergovernmental process entrusted with the follow-up to the Conference; support and facilitate the participation of all stakeholders; follow closely issues and policies related to international economic, financial and development cooperation; and keep under review actions taken at all levels in follow-up to the Conference, as well as within the framework of international economic, financial and development cooperation in general;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to accord priority to the following main tasks related to follow-up activities: (a) promoting coherence and an integrated approach within the United Nations to issues related to financing for development, fully utilizing the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination mechanism; (b) intensifying interactions with the secretariats of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the World Trade Organization, as well as with other institutional stakeholders; (c) continuing the involvement of other relevant stakeholders, including civil society organizations and the private sector; and (d) preparing inputs for consideration by the intergovernmental bodies concerned;

6. *Invites* Member States, all institutional stakeholders and non-institutional stakeholders in the financing for development process to extend their full support to and cooperation with the new secretariat support structure in fulfilling its tasks;

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[2] See *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 16* (A/57/16), para. 107.

[3] A/57/344.

[4] A/57/319.

7. *Decides* that the provisions of the present resolution should be implemented, by utilization of existing resources, starting at the beginning of 2003;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to seek voluntary contributions to support the follow-up to the Conference;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General, as a part of his consolidated report under financing for development, to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 86 (c)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: culture and development

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.13

Culture and development

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 41/187 of 8 December 1986, 46/158 of 19 December 1991, 51/179 of 16 December 1996, 52/197 of 18 December 1997, 53/184 of 15 December 1998 and 55/192 of 20 December 2000 on culture and development,

Encouraged by the positive international response to the results of the work of the World Commission on Culture and Development and of the Intergovernmental Conference on Cultural Policies for Development organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at Stockholm from 30 March to 2 April 1998,

Recalling its resolution 56/8 of 21 November 2001, which proclaimed 2002 as the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage,

Recalling also its resolutions 53/22 of 4 November 1998 on the United Nations Year of Dialogue among Civilizations and 56/6 of 9 November 2001 on the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations containing the Programme of Action[1] and objectives, principles and participants[2] thereof, and recognizing that, in the light of recent events, the United Nations should give greater weight and visibility to the theme of dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions, since the protection of cultural diversity is closely linked to the larger framework of the dialogue among civilizations and cultures and its ability to achieve genuine mutual understanding, solidarity and cooperation,

[1] Resolution 56/6, sect. B.
[2] Ibid., sect. A.

02-72715 (E) 091202

Encouraged by the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[3] adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development at Johannesburg, South Africa, on 4 September 2002, and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] also adopted by the Summit on 4 September 2002, which urges the promotion of dialogue and cooperation among the world's civilizations and peoples, irrespective of race, disabilities, religion, language, culture and tradition,

Underlining the fact that tolerance and respect for cultural diversity and universal promotion and protection of human rights, including the right to development, are mutually supportive, and recognizing that tolerance and respect for diversity effectively promote and are supported by, inter alia, the empowerment of women,

Emphasizing the need to enhance the potential of culture as a means of achieving prosperity, sustainable development and global peaceful coexistence,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization on resolution 55/192 of 20 December 2000, entitled "Culture and development";[5]

2. *Takes note with satisfaction* of the adoption by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization of the medium-term strategy for 2002-2007, which directs the work of the organization on two cross-cutting themes, namely, the eradication of poverty, especially extreme poverty, and the contribution of information and communication technologies to the development of education, science and culture and the construction of a knowledge society, and is based upon the notion that culture may contribute effectively to the reduction of poverty;

3. *Welcomes* the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity,[6] adopted by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization at its thirty-first session on 2 November 2001, and further welcomes the main lines of the Action Plan[7] for the implementation of the Declaration appended thereto;

4. *Proclaims* 21 May as the World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development, echoing the World Day for Cultural Development commemorated during the World Decade for Cultural Development;

5. *Invites* all Member States, intergovernmental bodies, organizations of the United Nations system and relevant non-governmental organizations:

(a) To ensure, in cooperation with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the implementation of the Action Plan[7] of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity;[6]

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[3] *Plan of Implementation of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August to 4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

[4] Ibid., resolution 1, annex.

[5] See A/57/226.

[6] United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, *Records of the General Conference, Thirty-first Session, Paris, 15 October to 3 November 2001*, vol. 1, *Resolutions*, chap. V, resolution 25, annex I.

[7] Ibid., annex II.

(b) To implement the Declaration and Programme of Action on a Culture of Peace, adopted by the General Assembly in resolutions 53/243 A and B of 13 September 1999;

(c) To implement the Programme of Action of the Global Agenda for Dialogue among Civilizations, contained in section B of resolution 56/6 of 9 November 2001;

(d) To implement relevant provisions on cultural diversity of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[3] and the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[4] adopted at the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 4 September 2002;

(e) To strengthen international cooperation and solidarity in supporting national efforts of developing countries to:

(i) Gain access to new technologies;

(ii) Be helped in mastering information technologies with a view to encouraging the production, safeguarding and dissemination of diversified contents in the media and global information networks and, to that end, promote the role of public radio and television services in the development of audio-visual productions of good quality, in particular by fostering the establishment of cooperative mechanisms to facilitate their distribution;

(iii) Establish cultural industries that are viable and competitive at national and international levels, in the face of the current imbalance in the flow and exchange of cultural goods at the global level;

(iv) Assist in the emergence or consolidation of cultural industries in the developing countries and, to this end, cooperate in the necessary infrastructures and skills, fostering the emergence of viable local markets;

(f) To acknowledge the importance of preserving and developing cultural heritage, including through encouraging the strengthening of domestic policies in the fields of protection, incentive and promotion of the various cultures, mainly the most vulnerable;

(g) To formulate policies pertaining to tangible and intangible cultural heritage, particularly taking into account resolution 56/8, adopted by the General Assembly on 21 November 2001, whereby 2002 was proclaimed the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage;

(h) To assess the interconnection between culture and development and the elimination of poverty in the context of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006);

(i) To raise public awareness of the value and importance of cultural diversity and, particularly, encourage through education and the media knowledge of the positive value of cultural diversity, inter alia, as regards languages;

(j) Within the framework of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People and based on the main lines of the Action Plan for the implementation of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity, to strengthen efforts towards the prioritization of the adoption of national policies that recognize the

contribution of traditional knowledge, particularly with regard to environmental protection and the management of natural resources, of fostering synergies between modern science and local knowledge and of recognizing the traditional and direct dependence on renewable resources and ecosystems, including in the form of sustainable harvesting, that is essential to the cultural, economic and physical well-being of indigenous people and their communities;

6. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to continue its work to promote greater awareness of the crucial relationship between culture and development and the important role of information and communication technologies in this relationship;

7. *Encourages* the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, in conjunction, as appropriate, with other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to continue to provide support, upon request, to developing countries, in particular as regards national capacity-building and access to information and communication technologies, for the implementation of international cultural conventions, including with regard to conservation of heritage and protection of cultural property, and for the return or restitution of cultural property, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 56/97 of 14 December 2001, entitled "Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin";

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other relevant United Nations bodies and multilateral development institutions, to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a progress report on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-seventh session
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Agenda item 87 (f)
Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.20

Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 49/122 of 19 December 1994 on the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

Recalling also its resolutions 51/183 of 16 December 1996, 52/202 of 18 December 1997 and 53/189 of 15 December 1998, the review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,[1] and its resolutions 54/224 of 22 December 1999, 55/199 of 20 December 2000, 55/202 of 20 December 2000 and 56/198 of 21 December 2001, and recalling further the Declaration of Barbados[2] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[3] adopted by the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,

[1] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution I, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

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Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[4] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[5] adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002, the particular emphasis given to small island developing States in the Declaration and the Plan of Implementation, and the call for the General Assembly to consider convening an international meeting for a comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States in 2004,

Recalling the report of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development on its tenth session,[6]

Welcoming the establishment of the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, and emphasizing the importance of issues related to small island developing States within the United Nations system,

Recognizing that, within the context of the challenges of development, small island developing States experience specific problems arising from small size, remoteness, geographical dispersion, vulnerability to natural disasters, fragile ecosystems, constraints on transport and communication, isolation from markets, vulnerability to exogenous economic and financial shocks, limited internal markets, lack of natural resources, limited freshwater supply, heavy dependence on imports and limited commodities, depletion of non-renewable resources and migration,

Recognizing also the significant efforts of small island developing States to achieve sustainable development and the need to continue to enhance their capacities to participate effectively in the multilateral financial and trading system,

Reiterating the importance of the vulnerability index as a tool for assessing, and thereby addressing, the vulnerability of small island developing States, as well as identifying the challenges to their sustainable development,

Recognizing the relevance of such work to the mandate of the Committee for Development Policy concerning criteria for the identification, including designation and graduation, of the least developed countries,

Noting the efforts to implement the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States at the national, regional and international levels and the need for regional and global institutions to continue to supplement the efforts being made at the national level, inter alia, through the provision of adequate financial and technical support,

Emphasizing the continuing need for the technical and financial support of projects that were presented within the context of the implementation of the Programme of Action, inter alia, at the meeting of representatives of donor countries and small island developing States held in New York from 24 to 26 February 1999,[7]

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[4] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[5] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[6] TD/390.

[7] See A/S-22/4.

as well as the partnership initiatives presented by small island developing States and their organizations during the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

Noting in this regard the preparatory activities undertaken at the national and regional levels for the World Summit on Sustainable Development and expressing its appreciation to the Government of Singapore for hosting the interregional meeting of the Alliance of Small Island States held in preparation for the World Summit from 7 to 11 January 2002,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[8]

2. *Reiterates* the urgent need for the full and effective implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States[3] and of the Declaration and review document adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session[1] to assist small island developing States in their efforts to achieve sustainable development;

3. *Welcomes* the efforts made at the national, subregional and regional levels to implement the Programme of Action;

4. *Requests* the relevant organs and agencies of the United Nations system, as well as the regional commissions and organizations, to undertake concrete measures, within their respective mandates, for the further implementation of the Programme of Action in the context of their programmes;

5. *Decides* to convene an international meeting in 2004, which will include a high level segment, to undertake a full and comprehensive review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, as called for in the Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Developpment,[5] and welcomes the offer of the Government of Mauritius to host the international meeting;

6. *Also decides* that the comprehensive review referred to in paragraph 5 above should seek a renewed political commitment by all countries to, and should focus on, practical and pragmatic actions for the further implementation of the Programme of Action, including through the mobilization of resources and assistance for small island developing States;

7. *Further decides* to convene regional preparatory meetings of small island developing States in the African, Caribbean and Pacific regions, as well as an interregional preparatory meeting for all small island developing States, to undertake the review of the Programme of Action at the national, subregional and regional levels and to identify and develop input for the above-mentioned review that is specific to small island developing States while maximizing coherence and complementarity with other preparatory work;

8. *Welcomes* the initial efforts of the small island developing States to develop the national and regional modalities necessary for the regional preparatory meetings, and calls upon the United Nations system in general and the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat in particular, as well as the Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States, the multilateral financial institutions and the Global Environment Facility, to put in

[8] A/57/131.

place modalities at the international level that will facilitate the meetings referred to in paragraphs 5 and 7 above in a timely manner;

9. *Requests* that, in facilitating the review of the implementation of the Programme of Action, the United Nations system seek country input that are short and well-focused and that draw upon, inter alia, material prepared for the World Summit on Sustainable Development, in order to minimize the burden on participating States while maximizing the usefulness of the information gathered;

10. *Invites* the Commission on Sustainable Development, at its eleventh session, to consider its role in the preparatory process for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action;

11. *Invites* all Member States and States members of the specialized agencies, relevant regional and international agencies and organizations and the major groups identified in Agenda 21,[9] in accordance with the rules of procedure of the Commission on Sustainable Development and the World Summit[10] as well as its established practices, to participate fully in the activities identified for the further implementation of and effective follow-up to the Programme of Action and in the preparations for the comprehensive review;

12. *Invites* all international meetings of relevance to small island developing States, including the regional and interregional meetings of small island developing States, to provide relevant input into the comprehensive review and its preparatory process;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General, pursuant to paragraph 8 of Assembly resolution 56/198, to give further consideration to the strengthening of the Small Island Developing States Unit, including through the regularization of the current post of Interregional Adviser for Small Island Developing States at the earliest opportunity, thereby enabling the Unit to assist in the preparations for the comprehensive review of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

14. *Calls* for the participation of associate members of regional commissions in the comprehensive review referred to above and in the preparatory process therefor, in the same capacity as observer that held for their participation in the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States held in 1994 and in the nineteenth special session of the General Assembly, held in 1999 to review the implementation of the Programme of Action;

15. *Decides* to establish a voluntary fund for the purpose of assisting small island developing States, including the least developed countries among them, to participate fully and effectively in the international meeting referred to in paragraph 5 above, as well as in the various preparatory processes referred to in paragraph 7 above, and invites Governments, intergovernmental organizations and the major

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[9] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution I, annex II. The major groups are women; young people; indigenous people and communities; non-governmental organizations; local authorities; worker and trade unions; business and industry, including transnational corporations; the scientific and technological community; and farmers.

[10] *Rules of Procedure of the Functional Commissions of the Economic and Social Council* (E/5975/Rev.1) and A/CONF.199/2 and Corr.1.

groups accredited to the Commission on Sustainable Development to contribute to the fund;

16. *Urges* all relevant organizations to finalize, by 2004, the work on the vulnerability index, taking into account the particular circumstances and needs of small island developing States;

17. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States";

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

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Fifty-seventh session
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Agenda item 86
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.49

International Year of Mountains, 2002

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 53/24 of 10 November 1998, in which it proclaimed 2002 as the International Year of Mountains,

Recalling also its resolution 55/189 of 20 December 2000,

Recognizing chapter 13 of Agenda 21[1] and all relevant paragraphs of the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,[2] in particular paragraph 42 thereof, as the overall policy frameworks for sustainable mountain development,

Noting the voluntary International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions, launched during the World Summit on Sustainable Development with the committed support of twenty-nine countries, sixteen intergovernmental organizations and sixteen organizations from the major groups, as an important approach to addressing the various interrelated dimensions of sustainable mountain development,

Taking note of the Bishkek Mountain Platform, the outcome document of the Bishkek Global Mountain Summit, held at Bishkek, from 28 October to 1 November 2002, which was the concluding event of the International Year of Mountains,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions Adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 2, annex.

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1. *Takes note* of the interim report transmitted by the Secretary-General on the International Year of Mountains, 2002;[3]

2. *Welcomes* the success achieved during the International Year of Mountains, during which numerous activities and initiatives were undertaken at all levels, including major international meetings held in Bhutan, Canada, Ecuador, Germany, India, Italy, Kyrgyzstan, Nepal, Peru and Switzerland which catalysed a strengthened interest for sustainable development and poverty eradication in mountain regions;

3. *Recommends* that the experience gained during the International Year of Mountains be valued in the context of an appropriate follow-up;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the effective role played by Governments, as well as major groups, academic institutions and international organizations and agencies, in the activities related to the International Year of Mountains, including the establishment of seventy-four national committees;

5. *Also notes with appreciation* the work undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations as the lead agency for the International Year of Mountains, as well as the valuable contributions made by the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations University, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations Development Programme and the United Nations Children's Fund;

6 *Encourages* Governments, the United Nations system, the international financial institutions, the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, and all relevant stakeholders from civil society organizations and the private sector to provide support, including through voluntary financial contributions, to the local, national and international programmes and projects resulting from the International Year of Mountains;

7. *Invites* the international community and other relevant partners to consider joining the voluntary International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions;

8. *Notes* that all stakeholders in the voluntary International Partnership for Sustainable Development in Mountain Regions have initiated a consultative process, with a view to determining the best options for further assisting stakeholders in the implementation of the Partnership, including, inter alia, consideration of the offer made by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to host a secretariat financed through voluntary contributions;

9. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their respective mandates, to continue their constructive collaboration in the context of the follow-up to the International Year of Mountains, taking into account the inter-agency group on mountains, and the need for the further involvement of the United Nations system, in particular the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the United Nations University and the United Nations Children's Fund, international financial institutions and other relevant international

[3] A/57/188.

organizations, consistent with the mandates specified in the Bishkek Mountain Platform,

10. *Decides* to designate 11 December as International Mountain Day, as from 11 December 2003, and encourages the international community to organize on this day events at all levels to highlight the importance of sustainable mountain development;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the achievements of the International Year of Mountains, under the sub-item entitled "Sustainable mountain development" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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Agenda item 87 (f)
Environment and sustainable development: further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.19

Promoting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles and commitments enshrined in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development[1] and the principles embodied in the Declaration of Barbados[2] and the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[3] as well as other relevant declarations and international instruments,

Recalling the Declaration[4] and review document[4] adopted by the General Assembly at its twenty-second special session,

Taking into account all other relevant General Assembly resolutions, including resolutions 54/225 of 22 December 1999 and 55/203 of 20 December 2000,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[5] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[6] adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development,

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[1] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex I.

[2] *Report of the Global Conference on the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States, Bridgetown, Barbados, 25 April-6 May 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.94.I.18 and corrigenda), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[3] Ibid., annex II.

[4] See resolution S-22/2, annex.

[5] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[6] Ibid., annex II.

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Noting with interest the respective partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by Governments, international organizations and major groups, announced at the Summit,

Reaffirming the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,[7] which provides the overall legal framework for ocean activities, and emphasizing its fundamental character,

Conscious also that the problems of ocean space are closely interrelated and need to be considered as a whole through an integrated, interdisciplinary and intersectoral approach,

Emphasizing the importance of national, regional and global action and cooperation in the marine sector as recognized by the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development in chapter 17 of Agenda 21,

Recalling the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region,[8] signed at Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, on 24 March 1983, which contains the definition of the wider Caribbean region of which the Caribbean Sea is part,

Welcoming the adoption, on 16 October 1999 in Aruba, of the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities[9] to the Convention,

Welcoming also the entry into force, on 18 June 2000, of the Protocol Concerning Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife[10] to the Convention,

Recalling the relevant work done by the International Maritime Organization,

Considering that the Caribbean Sea area includes a large number of States, countries and territories, most of which are developing countries and small island developing States that are ecologically fragile, structurally weak and economically vulnerable and are also affected, inter alia, by their limited capacity, narrow resource base, need for financial resources, high levels of poverty and the resulting social problems and the challenges and opportunities of globalization and trade liberalization,

Recognizing that the Caribbean Sea has a unique biodiversity and highly fragile ecosystem,

Emphasizing that the Caribbean countries have a high degree of vulnerability occasioned by climate change and climate variability, associated phenomena, such as the rise in sea level, the El Niño phenomenon and the increase in the frequency and intensity of natural disasters caused by hurricanes, floods and droughts, and that they are also subject to natural disasters, such as those caused by volcanoes, tsunamis and earthquakes,

Underlining the importance of the ongoing work of the group on climate change and natural disasters established by the Inter-Agency Task Force for Disaster Reduction,

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[7] United Nations publication, Sales No. E.84.V.3.

[8] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1506, No. 25974.

[9] See www.cep.unep.org/law.

[10] Ibid.

Bearing in mind the heavy reliance of most of the Caribbean economies on their coastal areas, as well as on the marine environment in general, to achieve their sustainable development needs and goals,

Recognizing the Caribbean Environment Outlook process currently being undertaken by the United Nations Environment Programme, and welcoming the support being provided by the Caribbean Environment Programme of the United Nations Environment Programme towards its implementation,

Acknowledging that the intensive use of the Caribbean Sea for maritime transport, as well as the considerable number and interlocking character of the maritime areas under national jurisdiction where Caribbean countries exercise their rights and duties under international law, present a challenge for the effective management of the resources,

Noting the problem of marine pollution caused, inter alia, by land-based sources and the continuing threat of pollution from ship-generated waste and sewage as well as from the accidental release of hazardous and noxious substances in the Caribbean Sea area,

Taking note of resolutions GC(44)/RES/17 of 22 September 2000 and GC(46)RES/9 of 20 September 2002 of the General Conference of the International Atomic Energy Agency on safety of transport of radioactive materials,[11]

Mindful of the diversity and dynamic interaction and competition among socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources,

Mindful also of the efforts of the Caribbean countries to address in a more holistic manner the sectoral issues relating to the management of the Caribbean Sea area and, in so doing, to promote an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, through a regional cooperative effort among Caribbean countries,

Noting the efforts of the Caribbean countries, within the framework of the Association of Caribbean States, to develop further support for their concept of the Caribbean Sea as an area of special importance, in the context of sustainable development and in conformity with the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea,

Welcoming the decision by the Association of Caribbean States to establish the Working Group of Experts on the Caribbean Sea Initiative to further advance the implementation of the resolution, including through the preparation of a technical report,

Cognizant of the importance of the Caribbean Sea to present and future generations and its importance to the heritage, the continuing economic well-being and sustenance of people living in the area, and the urgent need for the countries of the region to take appropriate steps for its preservation and protection, with the support of the international community,

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[11] See International Atomic Energy Agency, ***Resolutions and Other Decisions of the General Conference, Forty-fourth Regular Session, 18-22 September 2002*** (GC(44)/RES/DEC(2000)), and *Forty-sixth Regular Session, 16-20 September 2002* (GC(46)/RES/DEC(2002)).

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General;[12]

2. *Recognizes* the importance of adopting an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development;

3. *Encourages* the further promotion of an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development, in accordance with the recommendations contained in resolution 54/225, as well as the provisions of Agenda 21,[13] the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States,[3] the outcome of the twenty-second special session of the General Assembly,[4] the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development,[5] the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation[6] and the work of the Commission on Sustainable Development, and in conformity with relevant international law, including the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea;[7]

4. *Encourages also* the continued efforts of the Caribbean countries to develop further an integrated management approach to the Caribbean Sea area in the context of sustainable development and, in this regard, to continue to develop regional cooperation in the management of their ocean affairs in the context of sustainable development, to address such issues as land-based pollution, pollution from ships, physical impacts on coral reefs and the diversity and dynamic interaction of, and competition among, socio-economic activities for the use of the coastal areas and the marine environment and their resources;

5. *Calls upon* States to continue to prioritize action on marine pollution from land-based sources as part of their national sustainable development strategies and programmes, in an integrated and inclusive manner, and calls upon States to advance the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities,[14] and the Montreal Declaration on the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land Based Activities;[15]

6. *Calls also upon* the United Nations system and the international community to assist, as appropriate, Caribbean countries and their regional organizations in their efforts to ensure the protection of the Caribbean Sea from degradation as a result of pollution from ships, in particular through the illegal release of oil and other harmful substances, from illegal dumping or accidental release of hazardous waste, including radioactive materials, nuclear waste and dangerous chemicals, in violation of relevant international rules and standards, as well as pollution from land-based activities;

7. *Calls further upon* all relevant States to take the necessary steps to bring into force, and to support the implementation of, the Protocol Concerning Pollution from Land-based Sources and Activities[9] to the Convention for the Protection and Development of the Marine Environment of the Wider Caribbean Region[8] in order to protect the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from land-based pollution and degradation;

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[12] A/57/131.

[13] *Report of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, Rio de Janeiro, 3-14 June 1992* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.93.I.8 and corrigenda), vol. I: *Resolutions adopted by the Conference*, resolution 1, annex II.

[14] UNEP (OCA)/LBA/IG.2/7.

[15] UNEP (OCA)/LBA/IGR.1/9/Annex 1.

8. *Calls upon* the international community to support the efforts of the working group of the Association of Caribbean States to further implement resolution 55/203, and invites the Association of Caribbean States to submit a report on its progress to the Secretary-General for consideration during the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly;

9. *Calls upon* all States to become contracting parties to relevant international agreements to promote the protection of the marine environment of the Caribbean Sea from pollution and degradation from ships;

10. *Supports* the efforts of Caribbean countries to implement sustainable fisheries management programmes by strengthening the recently established Caribbean Regional Fisheries Mechanism;

11. *Calls upon* States, taking into consideration the Convention on Biological Diversity, to develop national, regional and international programmes for halting the loss of marine biodiversity in the Caribbean Sea, in particular fragile ecosystems, such as coral reefs;

12. *Invites* intergovernmental organizations within the United Nations system to continue efforts to assist Caribbean countries in becoming parties to the relevant conventions and protocols and to implement them effectively;

13. *Calls upon* the international community, the United Nations system and the multilateral financial institutions, and invites the Global Environment Facility, within its mandate, to support actively the above-mentioned approach;

14. *Also calls upon* Member States to improve as a matter of priority their emergency response capabilities and the containment of environmental damage, particularly in the Caribbean Sea, in the event of natural disasters or of an accident or incident relating to maritime navigation;

15. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to it at its fifty-ninth session, under the sub-item entitled "Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States" of the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development", on the implementation of the present resolution, taking into account the views expressed by relevant regional organizations.

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Fifty-seventh session
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Agenda item 87 (e)
Environment and sustainable development:
Convention on Biological Diversity

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.18

Convention on Biological Diversity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 55/201 of 20 December 2000 and 56/197 of 21 December 2001 on the Convention on Biological Diversity,[1]

Reaffirming that the Convention on Biological Diversity is the key international instrument for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising from the use of genetic resources,

Underlining the importance of traditional knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities for the conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity, their development and wider application with the approval and involvement of the holders of such knowledge, innovations and practices, their protection subject to national legislation, and the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of their commercial use, in accordance with the provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[2] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[3] adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

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[1] See United Nations Environment Programme, *Convention on Biological Diversity* (Environmental Law and Institution Programme Activity Centre), June 1992.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August to 4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. 1, resolution 1, annex.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

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Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the Summit,

Expressing its deep appreciation to the Government of the Netherlands for hosting the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity and the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety,[4] held at The Hague from 7 to 26 April 2002,

Expressing its deep appreciation for the generous offer of the Government of Malaysia to host the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties, which will be held in Kuala Lumpur in 2004,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity, as submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session;[5]

2. *Notes* the outcome of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity,[6] hosted by the Government of the Netherlands from 7 to 19 April 2002;

3. *Notes also* the outcome of the third meeting of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, held at The Hague from 22 to 26 April 2002;

4. *Welcomes* the fact that 185 countries and 1 regional economic integration organization have become parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity[1] and urges States that have not joined the Convention to become parties to it;

5. *Invites* parties to the Convention to ratify or accede to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety[4] as soon as possible;

6. *Reiterates* the importance of the decision of the fourth World Trade Organization Ministerial Meeting to examine, through the World Trade Organization Council on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights, the relationship between the Agreement on Trade-related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights[7] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, as well as the protection of traditional knowledge;

7. *Recalls* the commitments made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to pursue a more efficient and coherent implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity and the achievement by 2010 of a significant reduction in the current rate of loss of biological diversity, which will require the provision of new and additional financial and technical resources to developing countries and includes actions at all levels, and in this regard calls upon the international community to provide the necessary support to developing countries and stresses the importance of effective use of resources;

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[4] See UNEP/CBD/ExCOP/1/3 and Corr.1, part two, annex.

[5] See A/57/220.

[6] Bearing in mind the procedural concerns of some States relating to decision VI/23, and in this regard noting the deliberations and decisions of the Bureau of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties, with a view to addressing these concerns at the seventh meeting of the Conference of the Parties (see paras. 294-324 of the report of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties and the minutes of the meeting of the Bureau of the sixth meeting of the Conference of the Parties held in Montreal on 23-24 September 2002).

[7] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1869, No. 31874.

8. *Recalls also* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to negotiate within the framework of the Convention of Biological Diversity, bearing in mind the Bonn Guidelines,[8] an international regime to promote and safeguard the fair and equitable sharing of benefits arising out of the utilization of genetic resources, and invites the Conference of the Parties to take appropriate steps in this regard;

9. *Recalls further* the commitment made at the World Summit on Sustainable Development to implement the expanded action-oriented work programme of the Convention on Biological Diversity on all types of forest biological diversity, in close cooperation with the United Nations Forum on Forests, members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests and other forest-related processes and conventions, with the involvement of all relevant stakeholders;

10. *Notes* the ongoing work of the liaison group of the secretariats and officers of the relevant subsidiary bodies of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change,[9] the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, particularly in Africa[10] and the Convention on Biological Diversity, and encourages continued cooperation to promote complementarities among the secretariats while respecting their independent legal status;

11. *Calls upon* the secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue to work closely with the Global Environment Facility and other relevant institutions to help developing countries build the required national capacities to prepare for the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety, including in the areas of risk assessment and risk management;

12. *Welcomes* the launching of the pilot phase of the Biosafety Clearing House and calls for strengthened international support for developing countries to build their national capacities to interact with it and to benefit from its expeditious strengthening so that it becomes fully functional at the time of the entry into force of the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety;

13. *Emphasizes* the need for a substantial increase in financial and technical resources for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocol by developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and in this context welcomes the successful and substantial third replenishment of the Global Environment Facility;

14. *Invites* the Executive Secretary of the Convention on Biological Diversity to continue to report to the General Assembly on the ongoing work regarding the Convention;

15. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session the sub-item entitled "Convention on Biological Diversity".

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[8] Bonn Guidelines on access to genetic resources and fair and equitable sharing of the benefits arising out of their utilization (decision VI/24 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity).

[9] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1171, No. 30822.

[10] Ibid., vol. 1954, No. 33480.

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General Assembly

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 86 (a)
Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.12

Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the importance and continuing validity of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, contained in the annex to its resolution S-18/3 of 1 May 1990, and of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, contained in the annex to its resolution 45/199 of 21 December 1990,

Recalling its resolutions 54/206 of 22 December 1999, 55/190 of 20 December 2000 and 56/191 of 21 December 2001,

Recalling also the outcomes of all major United Nations conferences and summit meetings held since the beginning of the 1990s,

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Reaffirming the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[1] in particular the targets and commitments relating to development and poverty eradication,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[2]

1. *Conveys its appreciation* to the President of the General Assembly for having undertaken consultations with Member States, as foreseen in its resolution 54/206, on the draft text of an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium submitted by the Secretary-General to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session;

2. *Decides* that a final decision on the necessity for an international development strategy for the first decade of the new millennium will be taken by the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the basis of the outcome of the ad hoc working group on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summit meetings in the economic, social and related fields;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session with an overview of the challenges and constraints to, as well as the progress made towards, achieving the major development goals and objectives adopted by the United Nations during the past decade;

4. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Sustainable development and international economic cooperation", a sub-item entitled "Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade".

[1] See resolution 55/2.

[2] A/57/216 and Corr.1.

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 87 (b)
Environment and sustainable development: International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Jan Kára (Czech Republic), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.21

International Strategy for Disaster Reduction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 44/236 of 22 December 1989, 49/22 A of 2 December 1994, 49/22 B of 20 December 1994, 53/185 of 15 December 1998, 54/219 of 22 December 1999 and 56/195 of 21 December 2001 and Economic and Social Council resolution 1999/63 of 30 July 1999, and taking note of Council resolution 2001/35 of 26 July 2001,

Emphasizing the multisectoral, interdisciplinary and cross-cutting nature of natural disaster reduction, and stressing that continued interaction, cooperation and partnerships among the institutions concerned are considered essential to achieving jointly agreed objectives and priorities,

Expressing its deep concern at the increasing number and scale of natural disasters within recent years, which have resulted in massive loss of life and long-term negative social, economic and environmental consequences for vulnerable societies throughout the world, in particular in developing countries,

Recognizing that disaster reduction, including reducing vulnerability to natural disasters, is an important element that contributes to the achievement of sustainable development,

Recalling that the annual observance of the International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction is on the second Wednesday of October,

Recalling also the results, including the lessons learned, of the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, outlined in the Geneva mandate on disaster

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reduction[1] and the strategy document entitled "A safer world in the twenty-first century: risk and disaster reduction",[1]

Reiterating that, although natural disasters damage the social and economic infrastructure of all countries, the long-term consequences of natural disasters are especially severe for developing countries and hamper the achievement of their sustainable development,

Stressing the need for Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts in the field of natural disasters, in line with their respective skills and capacities, from prevention to early warning, response, mitigation, rehabilitation and reconstruction, inter alia, through capacity-building at all levels, where appropriate within the framework of action for the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction,

Stressing also the need for Governments to continue to cooperate and coordinate their efforts with the United Nations system, other international organizations, regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and other partners, as appropriate, in order to ensure effective synergies in the field of natural disasters,

Recognizing the urgent need to develop further and make use of the existing scientific and technical knowledge to reduce vulnerability to natural disasters, and emphasizing the need for developing countries to have access to technology so as to tackle natural disasters effectively,

Recognizing also the need to continue to develop an understanding of, and to address, socio-economic activities that exacerbate the vulnerability of societies to natural disasters and to build and further strengthen community capacity to cope with disaster risks,

Taking into account the Johannesburg Declaration on Sustainable Development[2] and the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation,[3] adopted by the World Summit on Sustainable Development held at Johannesburg, South Africa, from 26 August to 4 September 2002,

Noting with interest the partnership initiatives voluntarily undertaken by some Governments, international organizations and major groups, and announced at the World Summit,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;[4]

2. *Welcomes* the memorandum of understanding signed between the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and the United Nations Development Programme and encourages the secretariat to pursue the establishment of similar arrangements with other international organizations in order to improve synergies and clarify respective roles;

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[1] Adopted at the programme forum on the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction, held at Geneva from 5 to 9 July 1999.

[2] *Report of the World Summit on Sustainable Development, Johannesburg, South Africa, 26 August-4 September 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.03.II.A.1), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[3] Ibid., resolution 2, annex.

[4] A/57/190.

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in reporting to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session, to provide specific proposals to Member States for the implementation of the actions on this matter agreed to by the World Summit on Sustainable Development in its Plan of Implementation;[3]

4. *Decides* to take a decision on how to conclude the review of the Yokohama Strategy for a Safer World: Guidelines for Natural Disaster Prevention, Preparedness and Mitigation and its Plan of Action[5] at its fifty-eighth session;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General, with the assistance of the inter-agency secretariat for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction to plan and coordinate, in consultation with Governments and relevant organizations of the United Nations system, including international financial institutions, the review of the Yokohama Strategy in 2004 and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session in this regard;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to allocate adequate financial and administrative resources, within existing resources, for the effective functioning of the inter-agency secretariat;

7. *Encourages* the international community to provide the necessary financial resources to the Trust Fund for the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction and to provide the necessary scientific, technical, human and other resources to ensure adequate support for the activities of the inter-agency secretariat and the Inter-Agency Task Force and its working groups;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution under the item entitled "Environment and sustainable development".

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[5] A/CONF.172/9, resolution 1, annex I.

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Fifty-seventh session
Second Committee
Agenda item 92
Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

Draft resolution submitted by the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Marco Antonio Suazo (Honduras), on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/57/L.28

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic and social fields

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions on the restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields, particularly its resolution 50/227 of 24 May 1996,

Recalling also its resolution 56/211 of 21 December 2001, as well as Economic and Social Council resolution 2001/21 of 26 July 2001 and its agreed conclusions 1995/1 of 28 July 1995, 2000/2 of 27 July 2000 and 2002/1 of 26 July 2002,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including the Millennium Summit,[1]

Reaffirming that the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration[2] and the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, provide a comprehensive basis for action at the national, regional and international levels with the key objectives of poverty eradication, sustained economic growth, sustainable development and improvement of the living conditions of people everywhere,

[1] A/57/75-E/2002/57.
[2] Resolution 55/2, annex.

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Reaffirming further that while each United Nations conference has its thematic unity, major United Nations conferences and summits should be viewed as interlinked and contributing to an integrated framework for the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the Millennium Declaration, and a global partnership for development,

Recognizing the need to continue efforts to use the existing structure, i.e., the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary machinery, for a coordinated and integrated follow-up to and implementation of the commitments agreed at the Millennium Summit and other major United Nations conferences and summits, so as to enhance coordination as well as effectiveness and efficiency of actions at all levels,

Reiterating the need to strengthen the role of the General Assembly as the highest intergovernmental mechanism for the formulation and appraisal of policy on matters relating to coordinated and integrated follow-up to United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields,

Reaffirming that the Economic and Social Council continues to strengthen its role as the central mechanism for system-wide coordination and thus to promote coordinated follow-up to the outcomes of major United Nations conferences in the economic, social and related fields,

Emphasizing that the relevant functional commissions and, as appropriate, other relevant intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations system, within their mandates, must fulfil their responsibilities as specified in the outcomes of the United Nations conferences and summits, should further enhance their role as the main forums for expert follow-up and review of major United Nations conferences and summits and, in this regard, must strengthen their effort to enhance inter-agency collaboration and coordination to implement the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits,

Recognizing that the process of integrated and coordinated follow-up of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits should not include renegotiation of any outcomes of those conferences, including their specific institutional arrangements for follow-up,

1. *Decides* to establish an open-ended ad hoc working group of the General Assembly under the chairmanship of the President of the Assembly, with two vice-chairmen to be elected by the working group;

2. *Decides also* that the work of the working group should be consistent with the provisions of General Assembly resolution 50/227 and the follow-up mechanisms decided upon by the respective United Nations conferences and summits and should respect the interlinked nature of their outcomes as well as the thematic unity of each conference, and emphasizes that cross-sectoral thematic issues for further consideration throughout the existing structure should be decided upon at the intergovernmental level and focus on implementation, taking into account that the process of the integrated and coordinated follow-up of the United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields should be fair and balanced and should respect the principle of multilateralism and the principles contained in the Charter of the United Nations;

3. *Decides further* that the working group will produce concrete recommendations to ensure an integrated and coordinated follow-up of the United Nations conferences and summits, in the economic, social and related fields, and thus contribute to the implementation of the internationally agreed development goals, including those contained in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[2] bearing in mind the continuing reform process of the United Nations and General Assembly resolution 50/227, as well as the views expressed by the Member States on this question;

4. *Decides* that the working group will also consider the work of the General Assembly and its Second and Third Committees relevant to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields as well as the modalities of the reports presented to the General Assembly, bearing in mind the respective role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and its functional commissions and its subsidiary organs;

5. *Decides also* that the working group will submit proposals on how best to address the review of the implementation of the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields, including its format and periodicity, bearing in mind the need to recognize the active role of all relevant stakeholders in the implementation of the outcomes of United Nations conferences and summits;

6. *Decides* that future decisions on follow-up to conferences whose ten-year anniversary are imminent shall be kept pending subject to the decisions to be taken by the General Assembly on the report of the working group;

7. *Decides further* that the working group will consider how to ensure that the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits are integrated in the programmes of work of the United Nations system and are taken fully into account, as relevant, for the operational work and country frameworks of United Nations system organizations, in accordance with national development objectives and priorities, and requests the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the United Nations Development Group to contribute to the reflection on integrated conference follow-up;

8. *Decides* that the working group will commence its substantive work during the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly, no later than January 2003, and will submit its report before Friday, 27 June 2003, for consideration by the General Assembly and action before the end of that session in 2003;

9. *Decides further* that at its first meeting the working group will consider its work programme, including the issue of periodicity and duration of its meetings within the time boundaries established in paragraph 8 above;

10. *Decides also* to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-eighth session, as a plenary item, the item entitled "Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields".